

Please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

In accordance with amendment practice pursuant to Rule 1.121(c)(1)(i), presented below is a "clean" set of "rewritten claims." A "marked up" version of these claims is attached hereto as Exhibit 1 pursuant to Rule 1.121(c)(1)(ii).

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claim 1, without prejudice.

Sub B1  
A1  
2. (Amended) A composite material comprising a thermoplastic hydrophilic matrix and a liquid active ingredient dispersed in an oil-in-water emulsion, wherein the liquid active ingredient forms inclusions in the matrix of uniformly distributed droplets, with a droplet size of between 0.01  $\mu\text{m}$  to 2  $\mu\text{m}$ .

A2 Sub B3  
4. (Amended) A composite material according to claim 2 wherein a load of the active ingredient in the composite material is between 1 to 50 % w/w.

6. (Amended) A composite material according to claim 2 wherein the active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of a flavor compound, an extract, a precursor or a composition containing a flavor compound, and mixtures thereof.

A3  
7. (Amended) A composite material according to claim 2 wherein the active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of a fragrance, a fragrance precursor, an odor masking agent, and mixtures thereof.

8. (Amended) A composite material according to claim 2 wherein the active ingredient is a compound with biological activity.